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a vacancy for One Sergt. and two Corps. as I cannot do well without that number.

I have forwarded to your care an open letter for your brother, which you will please to peruse (if you feel an inclination) then seal it, direct it, and forward it to its destination.

[illegible]

Bell Fontain. 11 June
1806.

Dr. Sir/

Yours of the 28th June & 2d Inst. was handed me by Mr. Hughes and shall be Noticed in rotation, as in the first you are more than commonly complimenting, but wind me up after by the notice of my omission in not sending you a return of the Detachment. — but see here a plain Tale will put you down: I was Informed on my return, that all my Detachment with myself belonged to Russell — this Information Came from the Adjt. of our Regt. and the Aid De Camp to the Commandt. in Chief — who should know the transfers which had taken place if they did not &c — as for the affair of the two men it was partly forced on me, and I am sure more galling to my feelings at that time; than it can be to you now. Lt. James Wilkinson (who accompanies me) had two favorite men in Lockwoods Compy. whose times were nearly out and after much persuasion I agreed to an exchange, the two men entering into engagements that in case they were Ordered on Command they would serve out the tour of Duty as Soldiers — but they demanded their Discharges and obtained them — they it is true were transfer'd to Russells B—e as we then conceived the whole Detachment to be his — and Lt. Wilkinson wrote the Order (by permission of his auth) and made it a transfer from R. B. & to him without the least Idea of Injuring you.

I assure you I would never apply to the Genl. for a transfer of your men, to any person whatsoever; unless I should have a Compy of my own, then you may give them up as lost: for those men have served with me many a long year and notwithstanding — they are such Damn'd Rascals that you could keep no Ducks or fowls for them, yet I think them very clever fellows —

But I yesterday reduced Bradley, and am uncertain whether he will again be promoted; but beg you to lea a vacancy for One Sergt. and two Corps: as I cannot do well without that number.

I have forwarded to your care an open letter for your brother, which you will please to peruse (If you feel an inclination) then seal it, direct it, and forward it to its destination.

With my House, if you can only obtain some person who will keep a fence round ~~it~~ the lot (unless you can get better terms) I shall be satisfied:- you have inclosed an extract of a letter I wrote to Govr. Harrison which you will see is to the point. I shall write you another letter and commit to the particular care of McNair and inclose those Notes &c. Retain them until I settle my money Matters in this country as I am in some hopes to have some Recourse.

I am Yours Sincerely

Z M Pike

Capt D Bissell